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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015*

Part IV
International cooperation for development

Section 13
International Trade Centre

(Programme 10 of the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015)**

* A summary of the approved programme budget will be issued in document A/68/6/Add.1.

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Overview

Table 13.1 **Financial resources**
(United States dollars)

Approved resources for 2012-2013[a]	40 141 800
Changes in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248	(1 159 200)
Total resource change	(1 159 200)
Proposal of the Secretary-General for 2014-2015[a]	38 982 600

[a] At 2012-2013 revised rates.

Table 13.2 **Post resources**

	Number	*Level*
Regular budget		
Approved posts for the biennium 2012-2013	162	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 5 D-1, 20 P-5, 30 P-4, 20 P-3, 14 P-2/1, 71 GS (OL)
Proposed for the biennium 2014-2015	162	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 5 D-1, 20 P-5, 30 P-4, 20 P-3, 14 P-2/1, 71 GS (OL)

Abbreviations: USG, Under-Secretary-General; ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

Overall orientation

13.1 The International Trade Centre (ITC) is the joint technical cooperation agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO) for business aspects of trade development. Originally created by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1964, ITC has operated since 1968 under the joint auspices of GATT/WTO and the United Nations, the latter acting through the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). ITC is the focal point for technical assistance and cooperation activities in the trade promotion field within the United Nations system of assistance to developing countries, as affirmed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1819 (LV). The Centre is responsible for the implementation of subprogramme 6, Operational aspects of trade promotion and export development, of programme 10, Trade and development, of the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015.

13.2 ITC is expressly mandated to foster sustainable economic development and contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries and countries with economies in transition through trade and international business development. The Centre's interventions concentrate on three strategic objectives: (a) strengthening the integration of the business sector into the global economy through trade intelligence and enhanced support to policymakers; (b) enhancing trade support institutions and policies for the benefit of exporting enterprises; and (c) strengthening the export capacity of enterprises to respond to market opportunities. The critical importance of trade and private sector development, as well as the central role of ITC in the Aid for Trade initiative and its implementation at the country level, continue to gain recognition in development forums. Consequently, ITC is called upon to deliver higher levels of trade-related technical assistance.

13.3 The programme of work is reviewed annually by the Joint Advisory Group of the International Trade Centre, the main intergovernmental policy forum of the Centre, which is open to members of UNCTAD and WTO. The WTO General Council and the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board review the report, including recommendations, of the Joint Advisory Group annually.

13.4 At its forty-sixth annual meeting, in May 2012, the Joint Advisory Group endorsed a new corporate strategic framework for 2014-2015, which was subsequently reviewed and endorsed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and later endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/236 of 24 December 2012.

13.5 The General Assembly, in section I of its resolution 59/276, endorsed revised administrative arrangements for ITC as set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/405). In conformity with those administrative arrangements, after consultations between the secretariats of the United Nations, WTO and ITC, a proposal in the form of a simplified fascicle, in United Nations format, is submitted in the second quarter of the year preceding the forthcoming financial period to the General Assembly and the WTO General Council, with a request that both bodies take note of the planned level of resources to be requested. The ITC budget is funded equally by the United Nations and WTO. The proposals outlined below are of an interim nature.

13.6 The General Assembly may wish to take note of the planned level of resources. The detailed proposed programme budget of ITC for the biennium 2014-2015 will be submitted to the General Assembly and to the WTO General Council in the fourth quarter of 2013. It will take into account any further adjustments that may be necessary to reflect the latest exchange rates to ensure consistency with the administrative arrangements for ITC approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/276.

Overview of resources

13.7 The proposed resource requirements for the biennium 2014-2015 have been formulated on the basis of the strategic framework as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/236.

13.8 ITC is a trade-related technical assistance agency whose work is enabled by regular budget and extrabudgetary funding. The regular budget supports the development and implementation of ITC core competencies or business lines, programme design and product/service development, programme management, supervision and monitoring. Country-level technical assistance support is funded by extrabudgetary resources, complemented by regular budget resources.

13.9 The overall resources proposed for the biennium 2014-2015 for this section amount to SwF 74,281,700. Accordingly, the contribution of each organization is estimated at SwF 37,140,900 for the biennium 2014-2015. Table 13.3 below shows the United States dollar equivalent of those requirements. The options to implement reductions in a strategic and sustainable manner will require further consultations with the United Nations and WTO. In conformity with the revised arrangements, resource changes will be detailed in the proposed programme budget of ITC (long fascicle), which will be submitted to the General Assembly and the WTO General Council, for consideration, during the fourth quarter of 2013.

Table 13.3 **Summary of requirements (United Nations share)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*2010-2011 expenditure*	*2012-2013 at revised rates*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*[a]	*2014-2015 estimate*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Grants and contributions	36 051.5	40 141.8	(1 159.2)	(2.9)	38 982.6	571.0	39 553.6
Total	**36 051.5**	**40 141.8**	**(1 159.2)**	**(2.9)**	**38 982.6**	**571.0**	**39 553.6**

[a] Preliminary recosting to reflect the United States dollar requirements for the biennium 2014-2015 to ensure the United Nations part in Swiss francs remains equivalent to its half share of the ITC budget of SwF 74,281,700 for the biennium (i.e., SwF 37,140,900).